




Agenda Item #: \_\_\_\_\_

# Staff Report

## City of Manhattan Beach

**TO:** Parking and Public Improvements Commission

**FROM:** Richard Thompson, Director of Community Development  
Esteban Danna, Assistant Planner 

**DATE:** August 27, 2009

**SUBJECT:** City Council Review of Pending Traffic Engineering Studies

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### RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Parking and Public Improvements Commission receive and file City Council's work plan for traffic and right-of-way projects.

### BACKGROUND:

At the request of the City Council, Staff prepared a report with current and future traffic and right-of-way projects administered by the Traffic Engineer.

### DISCUSSION:

At their August 4, 2009 regular meeting, the City Council discussed pending Traffic Engineering studies (see attached report). The City Council directed the Traffic Engineer to prioritize his time to the Sand Dune Park Metered Parking Study, the follow-up study to the Downtown Parking Management Plan, the Sepulveda Boulevard Corridor Parking Study, and the follow-up studies to Pennekamp Elementary and American Martyrs School Area Studies.

The City Council determined that other current and future traffic studies can be addressed once the Traffic Engineer completes the aforementioned studies.

### CONCLUSION:

Staff recommends that the Parking and Public Improvements Commission receive and file this report.

### Attachments:

Exhibit A – City Council Staff Report 08/04/2009



warrant studies, preparing and presenting staff reports for PPIC and City Council, analyzing and commenting on traffic studies and circulation plans for development projects, attending Planning Commission meetings as needed, preparing construction sketches and work orders for traffic improvements, implementing and monitoring approved traffic measures, working with other departments on traffic related items, providing support for Public Works projects, responding to traffic safety issues, analyzing collision rates, reviewing striping and traffic control plans for construction projects, representing the City at special meetings, as well as fielding telephone calls and emails from residents.

***Existing Studies/Projects Already in Progress***

***School Area Studies***

City Staff has completed the implementation of initial measures for the school area studies for the following schools: Grandview Elementary, Pacific Elementary, Robinson Elementary, Meadows Elementary, Pennekamp Elementary, and American Martyrs School. The Parking and Public Improvements Commission (PPIC) and City Council reviewed the performance of the aforementioned initial measures for all the schools except Pennekamp Elementary and American Martyrs School. Staff expects to present the results of the initial measures for these two schools to PPIC on September 24, 2009 and to City Council on October 20, 2009.

***Northeast Neighborhood Traffic Management Plan***

The Northeast Neighborhood Traffic Management Plan initial measures were approved by City Council on November 1, 2005. Most of the initial measures have been implemented, however, several studies at particular locations within this area still need to be brought back to PPIC and City Council. A follow-up evaluation of all initial measures including the results of the studies has not been scheduled at this time.

***Downtown Parking Management Plan***

The City's Traffic Engineer will discuss the Downtown Parking Management Plan Initial Strategies with the Downtown Business and Professional Association (DPBA) in the coming weeks. Staff will present a full review of the initial measures to the PPIC on October 22, 2009 and to the City Council on November 17, 2009. If additional parking data collection studies are necessary, Staff will make a recommendation for City Council consideration at that time.

***Downtown Parking Sign Plan***

As part of the Downtown Parking Management Plan, a sign task force was established to evaluate the style and placement of parking directional signs throughout Downtown. New reflectorized signs will be posted with \$20,000 allocated for this purpose, however, no funding is authorized for lighted signs at this time. The proposed signs will be reviewed by the PPIC and City Council at the time that the Downtown Parking Management Plan is reviewed.

***Sepulveda Boulevard Corridor Parking Study***

As a result of the Sepulveda Boulevard Corridor Parking Study, City Council has directed Staff to study parking restrictions for the intersections of Sepulveda Boulevard at Manhattan Beach Boulevard and Sepulveda Boulevard at Marine Avenue. Pending City Council direction, Staff anticipates presenting these studies to the PPIC in the Spring of 2010 and to the City Council shortly thereafter.

Aviation Boulevard Left Turn Restrictions

On September 2, 2008, the City Council approved left turn restrictions on Aviation Boulevard at 12<sup>th</sup> Street and Aviation Boulevard at 19<sup>th</sup> Street. A follow-up study of this action is in progress and will be reviewed by the PPIC and City Council. Staff plans to present this study to the PPIC on August 27, 2009 and to the City Council on October 6, 2009.

***Current Studies/Projects Requiring Additional Funding***

El Porto Beach Parking Lot Preliminary Circulation Study

At City Council's request, on September 1, 2009, the City's Traffic Engineer will present the El Porto Beach Parking Lot Preliminary Circulation Study. Subsequent study and analysis will depend on City Council action. The implementation of such action will also require additional Staff and Traffic Engineer time.

Sand Dune Park Metered Parking Study

At City Council's request, on August 4, 2009, Staff will present a proposed procedure to address the Sand Dune Park Parking Study. Subsequent study and analysis will depend on City Council action. The implementation of such action will also require additional Staff and Traffic Engineer time.

***Future Projects Not Funded***

Pending Traffic Engineering Studies

There is a number of pending unfunded studies/projects that require City Council direction and additional traffic engineering services. These include:

- Sand Section, including 6<sup>th</sup> Street petition
- Sepulveda Corridor Neighborhoods, including Oak Avenue
- Uniform Crosswalk Policy (Traffic Engineering and Public Works collaboration)
- Speed Awareness Sign Policy
- Construction Related Parking Policy

**CONCLUSION:**

The traffic engineering services contract authorizes the Traffic Engineer to work approximately eleven (11) hours per week. Given its limitation, service levels to residents would be expected to decrease as the number of studies being conducted increase with out any adjustment in the current budget or completion time. Therefore, additional studies cannot be initiated with out allocating additional funds.

As a result of the increased emphasis on traffic related studies, response time for citizen requests has decreased this year when compared to 2008. The average number of resolved requests in 2008 was 12 per month (including implementation). The average for 2009 (January to July) was 6 per month. Furthermore, it took an average of 36 days to complete a request in 2008. Thus far in 2009, requests take an average of 55 days to complete.

Staff recommends that the City Council review traffic engineering study items, discuss, and provide direction.